

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 06395 261317Z
ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 H-01 INR-07 PRS-01 CIAE-00
NSAE-00 NSC-05 HA-05 /033 W
-----115838 261322Z /43
R 261018Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9675
INFO AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRETORIA 6395

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, SF
SUBJECT: BIKO INQUEST: LAWYER'S COMMITTEE OBSERVER POLLACK

REF: (A) STATE 275168, (B) STATE 280026

1. CHETTY INFORMED EMBOFF OF POLLACK'S ARRIVAL BEFORE REF A RECEIVED. CHETTY SAID HE PLANNED ON MEETING POLLACK AT AIRPORT AND TAKING HIM TO JOHANNESBURG. AFTER RECEIVING REF A, EMBOFF CALLED CHETTY'S HOME AND TOLD HIS WIFE THAT, ACCORDING TO DEPARTMENT CABLE, SOUTH AFRICAN AUTHORITIES WOULD BE AT THE AIRPORT AND WOULD ESCORT POLLACK TO PRETORIA. EMBOFF SUGGESTED THAT CHETTY NOT MEET POLLACK IF HE WISHED TO AVOID CONFRONTING SOUTH AFRICAN AUTHORITIES AT THE AIRPORT. CHETTY RETURNED EMBOFF'S CALL SEVERAL HOURS LATER (STILL PRIOR TO POLLACK'S ARRIVAL) TO ACKNOWLEDGE EARLIER MESSAGE AND EXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR INFORMATION. CHETTY SAID THAT UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES HE WOULD NOT GO TO AIRPORT.

2. POSSIBILITY OF USG OFFICIAL NOT MEETING POLLACK AT AIRPORT NEVER AROSE. UPON FLIGHT'S ARRIVAL AT 2 A.M., JOHANNESBURG'S CONOFF WAS AT JAN SMUTS TO MEET. IN ABSENCE OF OFFICIALS WHO WERE TO ESCORT POLLACK, CONOFF DROVE HIM TO PRETORIA AND ARRANGED HOTEL ACCOMMODATION FOR HIM.
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3. AT AIRPORT, POLLACK WAS GIVEN TEMPORARY RESIDENCE PERMIT VALID FOR ONE WEEK. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF ON NOV. 18, DEPT. OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (DFA) OFFICIAL EXPRESSED IGNORANCE OF ANY RESTRICTIONS ON POLLACK'S ENTRY OTHER THAN THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT IS TO ATTEND BIKO INQUEST. HE ALSO SAID THERE HAD BEEN NO

INTENTION FOR SAG AUTHORITIES TO ESCORT POLLACK TO
PRETORIA OR RESTRICT HIS MOVEMENT TO THAT CITY.

4. POLLACK TOLD AMBASSADOR NOV. 22 HE WOULD NOT BE
SEEKING AN EXTENSION OF HIS TEMPORARY RESIDENCE PERMIT
BECAUSE ACADEMIC DUTIES REQUIRED HIS RETURN TO THE US
AT WEEK'S END.
BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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